

CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In a system of operating a wireless handset capable of making clear, secure-only, and auto secure calls, a method of making a secure call, the method comprising:
pressing a key for a predetermined amount of time;
entering a secure mode if the key is held for a time period greater than the predetermined amount of time unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto secure mode; and
staying ~~entering~~ in a clear mode if the key is held for a time period less than the predetermined amount of time unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto secure mode.
2. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:
entering a personal identification number (PIN) to register as a secure user.
3. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the predetermined amount of time is about two seconds.
4. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the key is the send/talk key.
5. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 2, wherein the step of entering a PIN number is entered each time the handset is activated.
6. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 2, further comprising disabling the handset if the PIN number is incorrectly entered more than a predetermined number of times.

7. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 6, wherein the predetermined number of times is 7.

8. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 6, wherein the predetermined number of times is 3.

9. (Currently Amended) In a wireless handset capable of operating in clear and secure modes, a method of transitioning from clear mode to secure mode, the method comprising:

sending at least one message to request making a secure call; ~~and~~
entering a personal identification number (PIN) as requested in response to the request to make a secure call; and
receiving at least one message authorizing a secure call request if a valid PIN is entered.

10. (Currently Amended) In a wireless handset capable of operating in clear and secure modes, a method of transitioning from clear mode to secure mode during a call, the method comprising:

sending at least one message to request going to a secure mode; ~~and~~
entering a personal identification number (PIN) as requested in response to the request to make a secure call; and
receiving at least one message authorizing a secure call request if a valid PIN is entered.

11. (Currently Amended) In a wireless handset capable of operating in clear and secure modes, a method of transitioning from secure mode to clear mode during a call, the method comprising:

sending at least one message to request going to a clear mode; ~~and~~
confirming transition to the clear mode as received in response to the message; and
receiving at least one message authorizing a clear call request.

12. (Currently Amended) A wireless apparatus configurable to make clear, secure-only, and auto secure calls, the apparatus comprising:

a user-interface key capable of being depressed; and

a circuit configured to measure the amount of time the user interface key is depressed, wherein the apparatus is configured to operate in a secure mode if the user-interface key is depressed for greater than a predetermined amount of time unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto secure mode, and wherein the apparatus is configured to operate in a clear mode if the user-interface key is depressed for less than a predetermined amount of time unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto secure mode.

13. (Currently Amended) In a system of operating a wireless handset capable of making c clear, secure-only, and auto secure calls, a method of making a secure call, the method comprising:

means for pressing a key for a predetermined amount of time;

means for entering a secure mode if the key is held for a time period greater than the predetermined amount of time unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto secure mode; and

means for staying ~~entering~~ in a clear mode if the key is held for a time period less than the predetermined amount of time unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto secure mode.

14. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:

means for entering a personal identification number (PIN) to register as a secure user.

15. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the predetermined amount of time is about two seconds.

16. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the key is the send/talk key.

17. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 2, wherein the step of entering a PIN number is entered each time the handset is activated.

18. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 2, further comprising disabling the handset if the PIN number is incorrectly entered more than a predetermined number of times.

19. (Currently Amended) In a wireless handset capable of operating in clear and secure modes, a method of transitioning from clear mode to secure mode, the method comprising:

means for sending at least one message to request making a secure call; ~~and~~

means for entering a personal identification number (PIN) as requested in response to the request to make a secure call; and

means for receiving at least one message authorizing a secure call request if a valid PIN is entered.

20. (Currently Amended) In a wireless handset capable of operating in clear and secure modes, a method of transitioning from clear mode to secure mode during a call, the method comprising:

means for sending at least one message to request going to a secure mode; ~~and~~

means for entering a personal identification number (PIN) as requested in response to the request to make a secure call; and

means for receiving at least one message authorizing a secure call request if a valid PIN is entered.

21. (Currently Amended) In a wireless handset capable of operating in clear and secure modes, a method of transitioning from secure mode to clear mode during a call, the method comprising:

means for sending at least one message to request going to a clear mode; ~~and~~

means for confirming transition to the clear mode as received in response to the message;

and

means for receiving at least one message authorizing a clear call request.

22. (New) In a system of operating a wireless handset capable of making clear and secure calls, a method of making a call, the method comprising:
pressing a key for a predetermined amount of time;
if the key is held for a time period greater than the predetermined amount of time:
entering a secure mode if the handset is currently in a clear mode;
entering a clear mode if the handset is currently in a secure mode and a user confirms the transition from the secure mode to the clear mode; and
staying in a secure mode if the handset is currently in a secure mode and a user does not confirm the transition from the secure mode to the clear mode; and
if the key is held for a time period less than the predetermined amount of time, staying in a current mode.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, further including staying in a secure-only mode without fall back to the clear mode if the handset is currently in a secure-only mode.

24. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said entering a secure mode includes entering the secure mode with fall back to the clear mode.

25. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said staying in a secure mode includes staying in the secure mode with fall back to the clear mode.

26. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said entering or staying in the secure mode includes requiring a valid personal identification number (PIN) from a user.